

Duchesne River - Starvation Reservoir

Short Term Regulation Guidelines

Short term regulation implies that the natural flows of the Duchesne River or Starvation Reservoir water released in exchange for natural flow of the Duchesne River will be retained in the Reservoir for no longer than a two week period. Short term regulation will only be allowed during those times of the year and under those climatic conditions when the water could be beneficially used; for example, natural flow water unused during a rainy period would not be eligible for regulation.

Several criteria must be met by the water user to participate in the short term regulation of water in Starvation Reservoir. The water user must have a signed an agreement with the Central Utah Water Conservancy District allowing regulation of water in the reservoir. The water user must have an adequate measuring device and control structure so the commissioner can regulate, measure, and account for the water delivered to the water user. Except in emergency situations, the water users facilities must be ready to deliver its water for irrigation; regulation will generally not be allowed for routine annual maintenance or repairs.

The river commissioner will be responsible to approve the acceptability of the measuring devices and control structures. The river commissioner will also be responsible to account for the water being regulated in Starvation Reservoir and delivered to the water users.

Regulation of the water in Starvation Reservoir will be allowed basically under three general situations:

1. Early and late in the irrigation season when the delivery schedule allows only low flows; flows during these times can be retained for a week and then released in order to increase the flows during the flowing week.

2. When farming operations dictate a break in irrigation such as during cutting and baling alfalfa.

3. Under emergency conditions when water would be wasted or would create further problems, for example, during a breach in the water user's canal.

Except in emergency situations water users must give the commissioner 24 hours prior notice of their intent to regulate water in the reservoir and also to begin the release of regulated water. Regulation of water in Starvation Reservoir may be allowed in other situations upon advance approval from the river commissioner and the Division of Water Rights. The request to regulate under other situations must be made to the river commissioner at least one week prior to the intended start of said regulation.